- Performance incentive for timely completion of projects has been introduced in September, 2006 under which contractors delivering projects within schedule are accorded higher weightage in qualification assessment in future contracts.
- State Governments have been advised to closely monitor the schedule of implementation and levy liquidated damages, wherever required.
- Review and monitoring meetings are being held regularly for proper monitoring of the progress.
- Ministry of Environmental and Forest approached to simplify procedures for forest clearance.
- Imparting training to the field personnel for building their capacity in programme implementation.
- State of Kerala has been allowed to use longitudinal gradient upto 1 to 10 in small stretches in place of the 12.5 prescribed in IRC standards.

SGSY in Chhattisgarh

† 2144. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received from Chhattisgarh for 2008-09 under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY);

(b) the number and names of proposals pending therefrom; and

(c) the status of their disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The proposals for release of central share of subsidy under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) for 2008-09 have been received from all the 16 Zilla Panchayats of Chhattisgarh. Two proposals have been received for Special Projects under SGSY during the same period.

(b) and (c) One Special Project proposal for sustainable livelihood through lift irrigation and fisheries development at Koria district of Chhattisgarh is pending as currently, only employment linked training and skill upgradation initiatives are being taken up under Special Project and projects relating to other activities have been put on hold pending restructuring of SGSY as National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

Statutory body for NREGS

2145. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the persons registered under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) are neither given employment nor unemployment allowance under the Act;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.